

Good Nevvs
FROM
NEWGATE.
OR,
A PERFECT
NARRATIVE
Of the Taking
Seaven Notorious
HIGH-WAY-MEN:

Of whom Three are at this present in Newgate; Two in Hartford; And Two in Chelmsford Goal: Which last Four, together with several others not yet Taken, lately Robbed the Excise-men of Eleven Hundred Pound, neer Hogden.

With the Particular manner of each Man's Apprehension; and a Relation of several of their Facts Committed on the Road.

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Good News from Newgate, &c.

IT may be remembred how much the High-Ways were infested in most parts of the Kingdom about ten Years ago with Thieves and Robbers, insomuch that to suppress their Insolencies, His Majesty, whose Gracious care to preserve his Subjects in their just proprieties against Out-rages and Violence, is never wanting; was pleased to Publish his Royal Proclamation for the Apprehension of these Out-laws, assigning considerable Rewards to any that should seize and bring them to Justice. Whereby the chief of these Beasts of Prey being either cut off by the Law, or Reclaim'd from these mischeivous practises; the Roads were again set free, and Passengers travelled with almost as much security as in the days of King Alfred; when Historians tell us a Man unarm'd might openly, yet safely, have carried a Bag of Money from Dover-Peer to Barwick upon Tweed, and thence again (if he pleas'd) to the Mount in Cornwall.

But though Authority may lop off the Twigs of Vice, yet the Roots will remain as long as there be Men, and sprout forth new Branches only fit to be engrafted on the Gallows: A fresh

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Gang is got abroad, who as much as ever haunt the Roads, complaints daily arriving from Oxford-Road, Essex, and divers other parts; whereupon some Gentlemen, to whose care the suppression and Apprehension of such Malefactors did in part belong, used what diligence they could for a discovery, but without any effect, till on Saturday the 28th. of April, a person in the Evening coming Riding as fast as he could into an Inn in Long-Acre, having with hast so lamentably abused his Horse that he was as bad as blind, piteously spur-gall'd and very lame; however pretending onely he had been that day a Hunting, he desired the Hostler to send for a Farrier to take care of his Horse, and so went his way; the Farrier dressing the Horse, finds him shot in two places, which occasion'd his lameness; The In-keeper having seen this Blade with others as suspicious as himself, several times before at his House, though he had no particular knowledge of him; upon these Circumstances began to have a jealousie he might be a High-way-man; and like an honest Man acquainted some persons concern'd with his suspicions, encreased by reason the person never came himself, but always sent

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sent Porters to inquire how the Horse did, which
being by the Farriers care pretty well recovered,
he sent Word on Munday the 7th. of May, that on
next morning he would take him away; accord-
dingly comes a Porter with money to discharge
the Horse, and a token to receive the Gelding;
but instead of having him delivered, was seized
by the Officers that waited there for that pur-
pose; whereupon he instantly brought them to
the person that sent him, who was lurking at an
Ale-house neer Charing-Cross, just bound for a se-
cond Progress into the Countrey, prevented by a
Diversion to Newgate, where at present he re-
mains.

'Tis since known that on the Saturday he came
to Town, a great Robbery was done in Bucking-
hamshire by eight persons, taking away a consider-
able sum of money on the Road, and after se-
veral hours desperate riding, very narrowly esca-
ped, and there are Violent presumptions he
might be one of them.

On Tuesday the 8th. of May, another old Of-
fender on the Pad was seized in Drury-Lane, and
the next day another taken in Clerken-well; these
three last it is supposed were all of a gang, there
being

being as 'tis said near thirty of them abroad, but the first is supposed to belong to some peculiar new-rai'd Gang of Padders.

The fellow taken at *Clerken-well* followed two trades it seems, padding, & house-breaking too : for, 'tis said He and Eleven more, not long since, broke open an Aged Ladies House in *Worcestershire*, binding all the Servants, treating the good Lady her self very rudely, and taking away Five Hundred pound in Money, besides Rings, plate, &c. But having finisht their work, they went down into the Cellar, and drank the good Ladies Health so plentifully, that they staid till late in the Morning, and were so Drunk when they departed, that they could hardly sit their Horses : This Story the Prisoner since his Apprehension was taxed with, who did not deny it, but Answered with Silence and a Sigh : Another of them is accused of taking away Twenty Five pound from one man, a Watch from another, and Eighteen-pence, or some such small sum from a third.

There are several Horses taken, whose owners cannot yet be found, publique notice of whose marks has been given ; that all persons rob'd may take notice thereof : some of which Horses will greedily

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greedily eat Raw Flesh, and seem to have been
much used thereunto.

But the most Considerable Robbery committed of late, was done on Tuesday the 15th. instant, near *Hogsdon*, by Six High-way-men, who met with a parcel of Excise-men, bringing up a very considerable sum of Money, Eleaven Hundred pounds, as 'tis reported; there was Six of the Excise-men, and well Arm'd: But two of them upon some occasion happen'd to be behind, & were Rob'd first, & then they came up to the rest that had the grand charge, whom after a brisk dispute they forced to surrender their Money; but raising the Country; many horses and men were immediately sent in pursuit of them; But none that did better, or braver service then a young Ladd, who being extraordinarily mounted, got sight of them and was resolved not to leave them, though they several times threatned to Pistol him, and to stop him dropt Money in the Road, which he alighted and took up, and then would overtake them again: At last coming to two cross ways, they left one of their Companions behind to strow Money down a long wrong turning, whilst they rid another way; but this cunning Rogue mistrust-

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ing what happened, having scattered some Money, rid that other way in earnest, and so escaped. For the Young-Man before mentioned, soon after coming, though he had the wit to take up the Money, yet he had also the discretion to mind the print of the horses footing, and which way he found most had lately gone, that way he pursued so Vigorously that two of the High-way-men finding their Horses begin to fail, left them, and betook themselves to the shelter of a Wood; the rest riding through a Village called Stanton, with Swords drawn, and pistols in their hands, and crying out *Thieves*, one of them flung a bag with an hundred pounds into the porch of a Strangers house, but the Lad behind crying out to stop them; a stout Smith with a bar of Iron red hot, made shift to stop two of them, who were there taken, the foremost making his Escape.

Then the Wood was beset, and after strict search, the two that had hid themselves there were apprehended; but the Wood and Village, though not far asunder, yet being in different Counties, two of them were carryed to Hartford, and the other two to Chelmsford Goal, where at present they remain.

Finis.

